This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

UNCLAS ABUJA 002295

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR DS/IP/FPO - LEWIS, DS/IP/AF - FREDERICKS,
AF/EX, AF/W, DS/ICI/PII

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: ASEC NI CRIME
SUBJECT: SHOOT OUT NEXT DOOR TO A USG RESIDENTIAL
COMPOUND

REF: ABUJA 2256

¶1.   On November 22, 2005 between 2020 and 2230 hours
       the local police engaged five carjackers that were
       pursued to a house locate directly next door to a USG
       housing compound. Embassy local guards and attached
       Nigerian police assisted authorities with the loaning
       of their post procured ten million candlelight flood
       lights which permitted the police to engage the
       carjackers wounding four. One policeman was shot and
       wounded. There were no injuries to USG occupants, nor
       was there any collateral damage to the USG housing
       compound. The police permitted RSO Abuja to photograph
       the scene and the carjackers.

¶2.   Due to the spike in crime that took place a week
       ago as mentioned in reftel, a guard reaction vehicle
       was parked in the immediate vicinity and was one of the
       reasons why the carjackers failed to escape, or to seek
       refuge at a USG compound.

¶3.   By all accounts the police fired over one-hundred
       rounds of AK-47 munitions and launched at least a dozen
       tear gas rounds into the vacant house. RSO Abuja is
       very pleased that the police actions resulted in the
       apprehension of five carjackers who were later
       identified to be armed robbers. The District Police
       Officer in charge was interviewed on November 23, 2005
       and he reported the carjackers were heading to a local
       fish bar in Maitama to rob it and steal the owner's
       vehicle. The police source stated that the lead
       carjacker and his captured gang of thieves were
       responsible for seven previous armed robberies in the
       area.

¶4.   RSO Abuja believes that based on the information
       obtained from the police the small crime wave in our
       neighborhoods may diminish with the recent
       apprehensions of the carjackers.

¶5.   The POC for this cable is ARSO Rich Verrier.
CDA Furey